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Security Council

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 6 February 2008 from the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and, with reference to the latter's letter dated 17 October 2007, has the honour to transmit the updated information on the steps taken by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to ensure the implementation of measures stipulated in Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), adopted on 28 April 2004.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines would also like to inform the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) that the Philippines does not give its consent to the public posting of information compiled in the matrix. Any information can only be furnished upon request and with the consent of the Philippines. Updates on the Philippine implementation of measures pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004):

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines received donated equipment to resolve incidents involving chemical, biological and radiological agents or weapons (otherwise known as weapons of mass destruction) from the Embassy of the United States of America in Manila on 20 February 2007. The donated equipment coming from the United States Department of State's Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program includes a rapid response trailer, chemical detection equipment, air compressors, decontamination clothing kits, evidence collection equipment, hazardous material safety gear and various types of medical and triage tools. The equipment is valued at 150,000.00 United States dollars.

2. Republic Act 9372, known as the Human Security Act of 2007, which took effect on 16 July 2007, would give the Philippine Government's all-out war against terror "legal teeth" as terrorism is now considered a crime. Although the law does not specifically mention biological, chemical or nuclear weapons, the effect of the use of said weapons is impliedly covered by the law.

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3. Republic Act 9194, amending Republic Act 9160, or the Anti-Money-Laundering Law, enacted on 7 March 2003, is an important tool in the war against terror as it prevents criminals and terrorists access to the international financial system.

4. There is no current legislative enactment addressed against weapons of mass destruction. As such, the existing revised Penal Code and special laws are still being used to prosecute and punish criminal offenders.